

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03  
SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05  
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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, SHUM, CZ  
SUBJECT: JUNE 6-10 VISIT OF J. PAUL LYET, SPERRY RAND CHAIRMAN  
AND U.S. CHAIRMAN OF CZECHOSLOVAK-U.S. ECONOMIC COUNCIL

REF PRAGUE 1461

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY REPORTS ON LYET'S VISIT, WHICH WENT WELL. NEW DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER JOBLONSKY RECEIVED LYET AND ATTENDED AMBASSADOR'S JUN 8 DINNER. COMMENT: VISIT GAVE CZECHOSLOVAKS A CHANCE TO SIZE UP LYET, AND VICE VERSA. LYET OUTSPOKEN BUT IMPRESSIVE. HE SAID 10 TO 15 CZECHOSLOVAKS MAY ATTEND COUNCIL'S SECOND PLENARY IN WASHINGTON NEXT FALL. EMBASSY POINTED OUT TO LYET THAT ATTENDANCE BY DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER JAKUBEC, WHICH LYET INITIALLY URGED, COULD POSE PROBLEMS FOR USG DEPENDING ON STATE OF US-GOC RELATIONS IN THE FALL. END SUMMARY.

2. PRIOR TO DEPARTURE, LYET AND PARTY TOLD EMBASSY THAT THIS INTRODUCTORY VISIT WENT EXTREMELY WELL AND THAT CZECHOSLOVAKS CONSISTENTLY INDICATED POSITIVE INTEREST IN COUNCIL (SPECIFICALLY SECOND PLENARY MEETING NEXT FALL IN WASHINGTON) AND IN STRENGTHENING US-CZECHOSLOVAK COMMERCIAL AND POLITICAL RELATIONS. ADMINISTRATIVE  
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ARRANGEMENTS (REFTEL AND PREVIOUS) WENT SMOOTHLY. LYET LEFT PRAGUE JUNE 10 WITH WIFE FOR ZURICH APPARENTLY VERY PLEASED WITH VISIT, WHICH ALSO INCLUDED SPERRY RAND BUSINESS.

3. LYET CALLED ON DEPUTY MINISTERS JAKUBEC (FOREIGN TRADE), JABLONSKY (FOREIGN AFFAIRS) AND MRAZEK (TECHNOLOGY AND INVESTMENT) AND MET WITH OTHER OFFICIALS OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MFT, MFA,

AND SPERRY RAND CUSTOMERS. VISIT TO OMNIPOL WAS CANCELLED DUE TO NONAVAILABILITY OF DEPUTY GENERAL DIRECTOR MARECEK, BUT THIS WAS ONLY SIGNIFICANT LAST-MINUTE SCHEDULE CHANGE. PREVIOUSLY, ON JUNE 5, LYET MET IN VIENNA AND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT CERNY.

4. AMBASSADOR'S JUNE 8 DINNER FOR MR. AND MRS. LYET WAS ATTENDED BY JABLONSKY AND SIXTH DEPT. DIRECTOR ZANTOVSKY OF MFA, PLUS SIX OTHER CZECHOSLOVAK OFFICIALS AND TWO WIVES. IT WAS A VERY PLEASANT AND USEFUL SOCIAL EVENT WHICH PROVIDED AN OCCASION FOR EMBASSY'S FIRST CONTACT WITH JABLONSKY, WHO RECENTLY REPLACED SAPACIL AS DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR U.S. AFFAIRS. JABLONSKY HAS HAD NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH CLAIMS/GOLD AND OUR OTHER BILATERAL PROBLEMS AND SEEMED CAUTIOUS ABOUT MAKING SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS ON THEM, EXCEPT TO REITERATE BASIC GOC POSITIONS.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT VISIT WENT WELL FOR BOTH SIDES. LYET OBVIOUSLY HAS A DIFFERENT STYLE FROM HIS COUNCIL CHAIRMAN PREDECESSOR, ALLIS CHALMERS CHAIRMAN DAVID SCOTT, AND MADE IT CLEAR HE BROUGHT NO NEGOTIATING PROPOSALS ON CLAIMS/GOLD. NEVERTHELESS, LYET WAS OUTSPOKEN IN TELLING CZECHOSLOVAKS THAT HE THINKS THEY WERE FOOLISH TO BLOCK SETTLEMENT FOR A FEW MILLION DOLLARS WHEN EVENTUAL TRADE BENEFITS COULD BE SO MUCH GREATER AND EVEN MORE FOOLISH TO DISH OUT HARSH TREATMENT TO U.S. JOURNALISTS, WHICH ONLY HARDENS CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC RESISTANCE TO SETTLEMENT IN U.S. CZECHOSLOVAKS SEEMED QUITE IMPRESSED WITH LYET. ON OTHER SIDE, LYET SIZED UP CZECHOSLOVAKS AND SEEMS MORE INTERESTED THAN EVER IN HIS ROLE AS COUNCIL CHAIRMAN. HE WAS PLEASED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOTE THEIR INTEREST IN COUNCIL'S PLENARY MEETING NEXT OCTOBER AND SAID TEN TO FIFTEEN CZECHOSLOVAKS MAY ATTEND. HE INITIALLY WAS PARTICULARLY KEEN TO PERSUADE DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER JAKUBEC TO ATTEND, ALTHOUGH WE LATER POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT JAKUBEC ATTENDANCE COULD CAUSE USG PROBLEMS IN LIGHT OF RECENT STRAINS AND CONTINUING UNCERTAINTIES IN OUR BILATERAL POLITICAL RELATIONS. BYRNE

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## Message Attributes

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